

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/BR2002/000175 filed December 6, 2002**

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (new): A plasticized polyvinyl chloride composition comprising: (a) 100 parts by weight of at least one polyvinyl chloride resin and (b) 0.1 to 200 parts by weight of a plasticizer wherein the plasticizer comprises (i) at least one isobutanol ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, these fatty acids can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Claim 13 (new): The composition according to claim 12 wherein said plasticized polyvinyl chloride composition is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 14 (new): The composition according to claim 12 wherein the weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is within the range 65:35 to 55:45.

Claim 15 (new): A plasticizer composition for polyvinyl chloride resins comprising (i) at least one isobutanol ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of

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a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, these fatty acids can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Claim 16 (new): The composition according to claim 15, wherein, the composition is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 17 (new): The composition according to claim 15, wherein, a weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is within the range 65:35 and 55:45.

Claim 18 (new): The composition according to claim 15, wherein the plasticizer consists of (i) and (ii) as the plasticizer.

Claim 19 (new): A method of plasticizing a polyvinyl chloride resin which comprises: incorporating a plasticizing effective amount of a plasticizer comprising (i) at least one isobutanol ester of a fatty acid with 8 to 24 carbon atoms, wherein, the fatty acid can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched and contains at least one epoxy group per molecule and (ii) at least one methyl ester of a fatty acid with 16 to 18 carbon atoms, wherein, these fatty acids can be saturated or olefinically unsaturated, linear or branched.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein, the plasticizer is free of phthalic ester plasticizers.

Claim 21 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein, a weight ratio of (i) to (ii) is within a range of 65:35 to 55:45.

Claim 22 (new): The method according to claim 19, wherein, the plasticizer contains exclusively (i) and (ii) as the plasticizer.